



# News Release

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## State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "[Look up a healthcare provider license](#)" in the "How Do I?" section of the [Department of Health website](#) (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

### Chelan County

In May 2013 the Occupational Therapy Board ended probation for occupational therapy assistant **Lisa L. Bertash** (OC00000755).

### Cowlitz County

In June 2013 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Kimberley K. Pearson** (RN00077236) that lifted a March 2013 suspension. Pearson's Nevada credential was suspended for not complying with a substance abuse monitoring program.

### King County

In May 2013 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program denied a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Crystal Michelle Ankenman** (CO60298697), also known as Crystal Michelle Salisbury and Crystal M. Ankenmann. She was convicted of one felony, five gross misdemeanors, and one misdemeanor from 2007 to 2011.

In June 2013 the Nursing Commission ended probation for licensed practical nurse **Shenee S. Poe** (LP00053333).

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In June 2013 the Pharmacy Board conditionally granted a pharmacy assistant credential to **Kristin Tere Bailey** (VB60230325), who was convicted of third-degree theft in 2007 and again in 2009. In 2011 Bailey was convicted of making a false statement to a public servant.

In June 2013 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program granted an agency affiliated counselor credential to **Thomas Gene Gergen** (CG60328682) and placed him on probation for at least five years. In 2004 Gergen was found to have committed first-degree murder — domestic violence (with firearm enhancement) and first-degree manslaughter — domestic violence (with firearm enhancement); he was acquitted by reason of insanity. Gergen received treatment while hospitalized, complied with release conditions, and qualified as a certified peer counselor with the Department of Social and Health Services. Before getting this credential, Gergen underwent a mental health evaluation that indicated he could practice safely and doesn't present a danger to the community. Gergen's credential is restricted to working only with his current employer, who is aware of his history and will submit regular reports to the Department of Health.

In June 2013 the Home Care Aide Program granted a home care aide credential to **Nicole L. Norman** (HM60350079) and placed her on probation for at least two years. In 2007 Norman was convicted of driving while intoxicated. In 2008 she received deferred prosecution for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, and operating a motor vehicle without ignition interlock.

In June 2013 the Health Care Assistant Program granted a health care assistant credential to **Janice N. Lorenzana** (HC60321257) and placed her on probation for at least one year. When she applied, Lorenzana didn't disclose that her registered nursing assistant credential had been suspended in 2011 and reinstated in 2013.

In June 2013 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with licensed practical nurse **Cary Frese Sneberger** (LP60139250) that lifted a January 2013 suspension. Sneberger's Pennsylvania credential was suspended in connection with drug or alcohol addiction. Sneberger must participate in a monitoring program.

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Christie S. Kost** (NC10068628) with unprofessional conduct. Kost allegedly took jewelry from four residents while working at a skilled nursing facility. The Department of Social and Health Services will not allow her to be employed in a job with access to vulnerable adults.

### **Mason County**

In June 2013 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with licensed practical nurse **Rosalie Simington** (LP00040933) that placed her credential on probation for at least three years. Simington must also pay a \$2,120.98 fine. Simington didn't follow policies and procedures in caring for a 76-year-old patient who died after having chest pains.

### **Pierce County**

In June 2013 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program granted an agency affiliated counselor credential to **Alexander Shirrell Irwin** (CG60338845) and placed him on probation for at least

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three years. Irwin was convicted of four felonies and two gross misdemeanors from 1978 to 2007.

In June 2013 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Monica Rae Medeiros** (RN60269229) that lifted a March 2013 suspension and placed her on probation until she completes a commission-approved refresher course. Her Virginia credential was suspended in 2012 for diversion and substance abuse.

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **David R. Smith** (NA00172750) with unprofessional conduct. Smith allegedly had a sexual relationship with a patient.

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Brandi Lynn Cordova** (NC10091725) with unprofessional conduct. Cordova allegedly said she would and did forge another worker's signature to falsify medication records. She allegedly was seen trying to open a locked medicine cabinet that contained prescription medication. Medication allegedly was missing after Cordova insisted on distributing it to patients.

In May 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program entered an agreement with registered nursing assistant **Vanessa Marie Ornias** (NA00180043) that granted her application to reactivate her credential and place it on probation for at least one year. In 2012 she was charged with third-degree theft.

### San Juan County

In June 2013 the Pharmacy Board ended probation for pharmacist **Claudia D. Bradley** (PH00021524).

### Snohomish County

In May 2013 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Daniel Joseph McNamee III** (CO60257646) and placed him on probation. McNamee was convicted of three felonies, three gross misdemeanors, and three misdemeanors from 1991 to 2008.

In May 2013 the Health Care Assistant Program ended probation for health care assistant **Ashley Danielle Foland** (HC60239203).

In June 2013 the Pharmacy Board ended conditions in an agreement with pharmacy technician **Nichole Lynn Bascue** (VA60296059), who may practice without restrictions.

## **Spokane County**

In June 2013 the Nursing Commission released registered nurse **Teresa M. Couper** (RN00176866) from conditions imposed in a 2012 agreed order.

In June 2013 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Dawn M. Chandos** (LP00050812) with unprofessional conduct. Chandos allegedly fell asleep while caring for a patient who required monitoring throughout the night.

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Tracey L. Michelbook** (NA00184738) with unprofessional conduct. Michelbook allegedly poured one patient's cough syrup into another patient's bottle, yelled at and belittled a patient, forced medication into a patient's mouth, and told another caregiver to discontinue a hospice patient's medication despite having no physician order to do so.

In June 2013 the Social Worker Program charged social worker **Dennis J. Vandermause** (LW00009372) with unprofessional conduct. In 2012 Vandermause was convicted on a federal charge of making false statements in a federal health program.

## **Whitman County**

In May 2013 the Dental Commission entered a corrected agreement with dentist **Alfred M. Fairbanks** (DE00004076) that restricts him from prescribing or administering controlled substances until he meets requirements set by the commission. Fairbanks prescribed excessive amounts of narcotics for a patient. He didn't ask whether the patient was getting narcotics through other prescriptions, didn't assess the need for pain medication or evaluate its value, and didn't evaluate the patient for possible dependency. Fairbanks also provided substandard care to two patients.

## **Out of State**

**Indiana:** In June 2013 the Nursing Commission reinstated the credential of registered nurse **Janet Graf** (RN00062702), whose credential was indefinitely suspended in 1978.

**Oregon:** In June 2013 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Shannon D. Bradley** (RN00151984) with unprofessional conduct after she surrendered her Oregon credential following a finding she hadn't complied with a substance abuse monitoring program.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).